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20 JUN 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Introduction of a Bill to Establish a Joint Committee on Foreign Intelligence

1. This memorandum is for information only.
2. On Wednesday, 18 June 1958, Congressman Alvin M. Bentley (R., Mich.) introduced without comment a bill, H. R. 12999, to establish a Joint Committee on Foreign Intelligence. The bill contains the same language used in Congressman Frelinghuysen's joint committee bill, H. R. 12534.
3. You will recall that Congressman Bentley was the House member most seriously injured in the Puerto Rican shooting in the House chamber in 1954. At that time you sent him a letter wishing him a speedy recovery. Upon his recovery, he sent you a nice acknowledgment note.
4. Congressman Bentley has visited the Agency in past years and in 1955 offered to discuss a "modified" bill providing for a joint intelligence community if the Agency cared to discuss changes in the Zablocki bill. He felt at that time that if a joint committee were inevitable it might be helpful to have an alternative proposal that would be more satisfactory to the Agency.
5. This past March, Congressman Bentley was identified as having approved an "alternative committee" proposal made by the publication National Review to provide for a survey of the work of Radio Free Europe.
6. We are watching for developments on this bill as well as other joint committee proposals and will recommend appropriate action on them as indicated.

JOHN S. WARNER
Legislative Counsel

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Att

85TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 12999

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 18, 1958

MR. BENTLEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Rules

A BILL

To establish a Joint Committee on Foreign Intelligence.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That there is hereby established a Joint Committee on For-
4 eign Intelligence to be composed of nine Members of the
5 Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate, and
6 nine Members of the House of Representatives to be ap-
7 pointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
8 In each instance not more than five Members shall be
9 members of the same political party. Vacancies in the
10 membership of the joint committee shall not affect the power
11 of the remaining members to execute the functions of the

1 joint committee, and shall be filled in the same manner as
2 in the case of the original appointment. The joint com-
3 mittee shall select a chairman and a vice chairman from
4 among its members, and shall determine the number of
5 members to constitute a quorum for the transaction of
6 business.

7 SEC. 2. (a) The joint committee shall make continuing
8 studies of all aspects of the foreign intelligence activities of
9 the Government. The Director of the Central Intelligence
10 Agency shall keep the joint committee fully and currently
11 informed with respect to the Agency's activities. All bills,
12 resolutions, and other matters in the Senate or the House of
13 Representatives relating primarily to the Central Intelligence
14 Agency or its activities shall be referred to the joint com-
15 mittee. The members of the joint committee who are Mem-
16 bers of the Senate shall from time to time report to the
17 Senate, and the members of the joint committee who are
18 Members of the House of Representatives shall from time
19 to time report to the House, by bill or otherwise, their recom-
20 mendations with respect to matters within the jurisdiction of
21 their respective Houses which are (1) referred to the joint
22 committee or (2) otherwise within the jurisdiction of the
23 joint committee.

24 (b) The joint committee, or any duly authorized sub-
25 committee thereof, is authorized to hold such hearings, to

1 sit and act at such places and times, to require, by subpoena
2 or otherwise, the attendance of such witnesses and the pro-
3 duction of such books, papers, and documents, to administer
4 such oaths, to take such testimony, to procure such printing
5 and binding, and to make such expenditures as it deems
6 advisable. The cost of stenographic services to report such
7 hearings shall not be in excess of 25 cents per hundred words.
8 The provisions of sections 102 to 104, inclusive, of the
9 Revised Statutes shall apply in case of any failure of any
10 witness to comply with a subpoena or to testify when sum-
11 moned under authority of this section.

12 (c) The joint committee is empowered to appoint and
13 fix the compensation of such experts, consultants, techni-
14 cians, and clerical and stenographic assistants as it deems
15 necessary and advisable, but the compensation so fixed shall
16 not exceed the compensation prescribed under the Classi-
17 fication Act of 1949, as amended, for comparable duties.
18 The joint committee is authorized to utilize the services,
19 information, facilities, and personnel of the departments and
20 establishments of the Government.

21 SEC. 3. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated
22 such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of
23 this Act.

85TH CONGRESS
2d Session

H. R. 12999

A BILL

To establish a Joint Committee on Foreign
Intelligence.

By Mr. BENTLEY

JUNE 18, 1958
Referred to the Committee on Rules